ber of eye Surgeons in the country and also expand the programme to the rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) The Government through mass media and with the assistance of Voluntary Organisations is bringing about awareness amongst public to donate their eyes after death.

(b) The exact national figures for the last 3 years are not available. However, the pledges received by Times Eye Research Foundation and Dr. R.P Centre, New Delhi for the last 3 years are as follows:

1984	6881
1985	21053
1986	42850

According to available information Dr. R.P. Centre has received and utilised 602 eyes during the last three years period and the 16 eye banks have reported utilisation of 353 eyes during the current year.

(c) and (d) The number of trained eye surgeons is adequate to cope up with the number of eyes being donated to the eye banks at present. However, the need will increase with increasing eye-donation activity. The Programme is under constant review and is being expanded in a phased manner.

Upgradation of Air India's fleet

*72. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India have any proposal under consideration to upgrade its fleet during the next year;

(b) if so, what are the broad outlines of the proposal and financial implications thereof; and

(c) how many persons are likely to get employment as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. With a view to augment/upgrade its fleet, Air India has placed an order with the Boeing Company for purchase of two Boeing 747-300(Combi) aircraft for delivery in October/November, 1988. The total project cost is approximately US $ 274.20 Million (Rs. 371.74 crores) including rupee expenditure. As a result thereof about 498 persons are likely to get direct employment.

Digha-Tamluk and Lakshmikantapur-Namkhana Railway Lines

*73. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state what progress has been made so far in physical and financial terms, in regard to the proposed Digha-Tamluk and Lakshmikantapur-Namkhana railway lines in West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): The progress upto September, 1987 is as under:—

	Financial
(i) Tamluk-Digha	Rs. 1.60 Crores
(ii) Lakshmikantapur-Namkhana	Rs. 0.63 Crores

The construction work on the above projects has commenced and is in initial stages.

N.P.A. to the Homoeopathic Doctors

*74. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Homoeopathic doctors working with M.C.D. and N.D.M.C. and C.G.H.S. are given non-practising allowance;

(b) whether Homoeopathic doctors working in the dispensaries and in the Nehru College under Delhi Administration are also given non-practising allowance, if so, the details thereof;

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government have received any representation about three months back in this regard; if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what action has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (*KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE*): (a) Yes, Sir. Homoeopathic doctors of MCD, NDMC and CGHS are given non-practicing allowance.

(b) and (c) No, Sir The matter is under examination by the Delhi Administration.

(d) Yes, Sir. The Government of India have received a representation from the Secretary, Joint Action Committee of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathic Doctors of CGHS, NDMC, MCD, ESIC and Delhi Administration.

The Joint Action Committee have given a memorandum and have drawn the attention of Government to the disparities in the pay-scales recommended by the 4th Central Pay Commission for Homoeopathy degree holders and diploma holders who are occupying the same post. The major demand of the Joint Action Committee is that the pay scales, promotional avenues, NPA and other privileges that are being given to allopathic dotcors should also be made applicable to them.

(e) The matter is under consideration of the Government of India.

Rail projects in Rajasthan

*75. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the number and details of the railway expansion projects received from the Rajasthan Government during the last three years; and

(b) what action has been taken by Government on each of these proposals during the period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Chief Minister, Rajasthan vide his letter dated June 26, 1987 listed a number of railway expansion projects. Action taken on these proposals is as under:—

1. The following projects, which are already sanctioned, are being progressed on priority:

(i) Kota-Chittaurgarh-Neemuch New Line.

(ii) Suratgarh-Bikaner Gauge Conversion.

2. For the undermentioned New Lines, surveys already carried out in the past had indicated that these are no financially viable:

MG Lines

(i) Falna-Nathdwara

(ii) Bar-Bilara

(iii) Ajmer-Merta Road

(iv) Kolayat-Phalodi

BG Lines

(v) Ratlam-Banswara-Dungarpur

(vi) Jamsar-Chattargarh

3. Surveys for the following New Lines have already been sanctioned and are in progress:

(i) Todaraisingh-Nathdwara Rail link

(ii) Jaipur-Sawai Madhopur Gauge Conversion

4. Besides the above, the Chief Minister's letter had also listed 11 other projects, including conversion of the Delhi-Ahmedabad MG line into BG and 10 more New Lines. It has not been considered practicable to take up any of these projects in view of constraint of resources and heavy commitments already on hand.